Liberalisation of restrictions imposed on foreign tourists for visiting Darjeeling

1729. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any step to liberalise or revoke the restrictions imposed on foreign tourists for visiting Darjeeling; and

(b) whether Government have evolved any proposal for the development of Tourism in Darjeeling particularly after the formation of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council have suggested the following proposals for development of tourism in Darjeeling:—

1. Setting up of wayside facilities at 3 places;

2. Setting up of Tourist Complex at Mirik;

3. Setting up of 3-star hotel by I.T.D.C. jointly with the Government of West Bengal;

4. Transit camp at Bagdogra airport;

5. Setting up of Food Craft Institute at Darjeeling; and

6. Yatri Niwas at Darjeeling.

The detailed proposals are awaited from the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council in regard to the schemes at Sr. No. 1 to 4. As regards the setting up of Food Craft Institute, the Department of Tourism have already identified the building for the Institute. Further, the State Government have been requested to get the society registered, which would run the Institute.

As regards Yatri Niwas at Darjeeling the Department of Tourism have already sanctioned Rs. 40.00 lakhs to the State Govt. of West Bengal. It has been decided by the State Govt. to transfer the project to the Hill Council.

Women engine drivers and ticket examiners in the Railways

1730. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of women engine drivers and the Ticket Examiners in the Indian Railways;

(b) whether Government are satisfied with their performance; and

(c) whether Government intend to recruit more women as engine drivers and Travelling Ticket Examiners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. There is no separate recruitment for women candidates. Further, in the category of loco running staff, the extant rules provide for direct recruitment only at the level of Diesel Assistants and Electric Assistants.

Conversion of British viceroy's residence into a five star hotel

1731. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vice Regal Lodge in Shimla, the summer residence of Viceroy during the British period, is sought to be converted into a five-star hotel by ITDC; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) Government have considered from time to time the possibility of locating the

Indian Institute of Advanced Study at more appropriate premises. No suitable alternate accommodation has so far been found for the Institute.

Shifting of Indian Institute of advanced studies from Shimla

1732. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whehetr it is a fact that Government have decided to shift the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies from Shimla to some other place; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore; and where it is likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the expenditure involved on the maintenance of the present premises the difficulties faced by Fellows and other scholars due to climatic conditions, and with a view to enhancing the possibility of interaction between the persons working at the Institute and other academics, Government have, from time to time, explored the possibility of shifting the Indian Institute of Advanced Study to some other place. No suitable alternate accommodation has so far been found for the Institute.

Permission granted to Teachers/Principals in KVS for higher education

1733. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Teachers/Principals of Kendriya Vidyalayas are granted permission to pursue full time study in colleges for higher education during school time; and

(b) if so, what are the details of such beneficiaries in Delhi and Jaipur Regions of Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

राजस्थान में नयी रेलवे लाइनें बिछाने के लिए नया सर्वेक्षण

1734. **श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या चालू वर्ष के दौरान राजस्थान में नई रेलवे लाइनें बिछाने के लिए नये सिरे से सर्वेक्षण करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इस समय विचाराधीन प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क से ङ) 1989–90 के दौरान निम्नलिखित नई रेल लाइन परियोजनाओं, जिनका भाग राजस्थान में पड़ता है, के लिए सर्वेक्षण अनुमोदित किये गये हैं—

1. भोपाल—रामगंजमंडी ।

2. ग्वालियर—शिवपुरकलां-कोटा ।

3. झांसी—शिवपुरी-शिवपुरकलां-सवाई माधोपुर ।

राजस्थान में बाल भवन

1735. **श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया :** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान में कितने बाल भवन हैं और वे किन-किन जिलों में स्थित हैं;